



HERMAN REXFORD (LEFT), CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF THE ARCTIC SLOPE TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION (ASTAC), SIGNS THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN ALASCOM, INC. AND ASTAC FOR THE ASSOCIATION TO PURCHASE THE DEADHORSE/PRUDHOE BAY LOCAL EXCHANGE FROM ALASCOM. ALASCOM PRESIDENT CHARLES E. ROBINSON (RIGHT) PUTS HIS SIGNATURE TO THE AGREEMENT WHILE DEAN MOORE, ASTAC MANAGER, LOOKS ON.

## ASTAC buys Prudhoe Exchange

Alascom, Inc. and the Arctic Slope Telephone Cooperative Association (ASTAC) have signed an agreement for ASTAC to purchase the local telephone exchange at Deadhorse/Prudhoe Bay for \$1.27 million.

Under the agreement ASTAC will also provide specific maintenance services for seven small satellite earth stations on the

North Slope. Ownership of the stations will remain with Alascom.

Alascom had installed the exchange because of the need for the facility during the building of the Trans-Alaska Oil Pipeline. The exchange was granted to Alascom on a temporary basis through the Alaska Public Utilities Commission on which last

year approved the sale of the exchange to ASTAC.

ASTAC general manager Dean Moore says the firm will put in local exchanges at all seven villages. About 650 subscribers are expected to be on line by November of this year in Point Lay, Point Hope, Wainwright, Atkasook, Nuiqsut, Anaktuvuk Pass and Kaktovik.